

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding final Office Action mailed October 20, 2005 (Paper No. 107172005). Upon entry of this response, claims 8-10, 46-52, 54-60, and 62-72 are pending in the application. In this response, claims 8, 46-52, 54-60, and 62-65 have been amended, and claims 45, 53, and 61 have been cancelled. Applicants respectfully request that the amendments being filed herewith be entered and request that there be reconsideration of all pending claims.

1. Claim Objections

Claims 44-71 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.126. When introducing new claims in the last response, Applicants inadvertently numbered the new claims 44-71 rather than 45-72. The claims have been numbered properly in this response, and Applicants request the rejection be withdrawn. Some dependent claims have been amended in this response to correctly reflect dependency on renumbered claims.

2. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's allowance of claims 66-71, now renumbered correctly as 67-72. Applicants also acknowledge the Examiner's indication in the Office Action that claims 46-48, 54-56, and 65, now renumbered 47-49, 55-57, and 66, would be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, Applicants have amended claims 47, 55, and 66 to include the limitations of their respective base claims, such that claims 47, 55, and 66 are now independent claims. Dependent claims 48-49 and 56-57 depend from now independent claims 47 or 55, and are thus allowable as a matter of law for at least the reason that each contains all features of independent

claims 47 or 55. See, *e.g.*, *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071 (Fed. Cir. 1988). Furthermore, rejected claims 8 and rejected claims 45, 49-51, 53, 57-59, and 61-64 – now renumbered 46, 50-52, 54, 58-60, and 62-65 – have been amended to depend from allowable claims. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to place claims 47, 55, and 66 in condition for allowance.

Applicants wish to clarify that the amendments to claims 8, 46-52, 54-60, and 62-65 are made for purposes of presenting the claims in an independent claim format as requested by the Examiner, and not in response to any rejections made based on cited art. Because a dependent claim as a matter of law inherently contains all of the limitations of its respective parent independent claim, and any intervening claims, the amendments to claims 8, 46-52, 54-60, and 62-65 do not narrow the scope of these claims as originally filed.

3. Rejection of Claims 44-45, 49-53, and 57-64 under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 44-45, 49-53, and 57-64 have been rejected under §103(a) as allegedly obvious over *Armany et al.* (6,711,207) in view of *ACPI* (1,234,234) and *Lee et al.* (5,414,863).

Applicants respectfully submit that these rejections have been overcome by claim amendments made here in, or rendered moot by claim cancellation.

Claims 44, 52 and 60, now renumbered 45, 53, and 61, are cancelled without prejudice, waiver, or disclaimer, and the rejection of these claims is therefore rendered moot. Applicants take this action merely to reduce the number of disputed issues and to facilitate early allowance and issuance of other claims in the present application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of these cancelled claims in a continuing application, if Applicants so choose, and do not intend to dedicate any of the cancelled subject matter to the public. Applicants expressly reserve the right to present these cancelled claims, or variants thereof, in continuing applications to be filed subsequent to the present application.

Rejected claims 45, 49-51, 53, 57-59, and 61-64, now renumbered 46, 50-52, 54, 58-60, and 62-65, have been amended to depend from allowable claims. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 45, 49-51, 53, 57-59, and 61-64 are therefore allowable for at least the reason that each depends from an allowable claim. *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 U.S.P.Q. 2d 1596, 1598 (Fed. Cir. 1988). Applicants respectfully request the rejection be withdrawn.

4. Rejection of Claims 8-10 under 35 U.S.C. §103

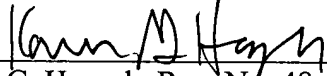
Claims 8-10 have been rejected under §103(a) as allegedly obvious over *Armany et al.* (6,711,207) in view of *ACPI* (6,234,234) and *Lee et al.* (5,414,863) and *Helms et al.* (6,144,695). Claim 8 has been amended to depend from an allowable claim, and claims 9-10 depend from claim 8. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 8-10 are allowable for at least the reason that each depends from an allowable claim. *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 U.S.P.Q. 2d 1596, 1598 (Fed. Cir. 1988). Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 8-10 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request that all outstanding objections and rejections be withdrawn and that this application and presently pending claims 8-10, 46-52, 54-60, and 62-72 be allowed to issue. If the Examiner has any questions or comments regarding Applicants' response, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone Applicants' undersigned counsel.

Respectfully submitted,

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